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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/677,061	09/30/2003	George Lee		8092

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EXAMINER	
GILMAN, ALEXANDER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2833	

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/677,061

Applicant(s)

LEE, GEORGE

Examiner

Alexander D Gilman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09302003
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noschese in view of Fusselman et al.

Noschese (US 5,389,006) discloses an electrical connector comprising:

an insulative housing consisting of a first housing member (28) defining a plurality of depressed molding areas (40) and a second housing member (32)

, the first housing member having a plurality of passageways (38) and a pair of mating posts (between 34 and 42 in Fig. 2), on respective opposite sides of the plurality of passageways, adapted for insertion into corresponding receiving channels (71) of a complementary plug connector, the first housing member further having a pair of reinforcing posts (36) extending in the same direction as the mating posts and extending a further distance than the mating posts,

the reinforcing posts being adapted for insertion into corresponding receiving holes of an insulative housing of the complementary plug connector; and

a plurality of terminals having contact portions received in the first housing member and integral tail portions embedded in the second housing member.

Noschese does not disclose that the second housing member being formed by injecting molding.

Fusselman et al (US 6,200,171) disclose that the second housing member (26) being formed by injecting molding.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the second housing member being formed by injecting molding, as taught by Fusselman et al to manufacture it easier and less expensive. (Fudsselman et al, col. 1, lines 20-22).

With regard to claim 2, Noschese when modified by Fusselman et al discloses (Fusselman et al) that the first col. 3, lines 2-5) and second (col. 4, lines 10-11) housing members are made of different electrically insulating materials.

With regard to claim 3, Noschese when modified by Fusselman et al discloses (Noschese) that that reinforcing posts are of the same size.

With regard to claim 4, Noschese when modified by Fusselman et al discloses (Noschese) that the terminals comprise a first set of power/ground terminals (with wires 22a) and a second set of signal/ground terminals (connected to wires 22b) electrically insulated from each other.

Claims 5-8, 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner in view of Kinoshita et al.

With regard to claims 5 and 8, Wagner (US 6,402,552) discloses an electrical cable connector assembly comprising:

a receptacle connector (10) comprising an insulative housing and a plurality of terminals (22) received in the insulative housing, the insulative housing consisting of a first housing member (26, 38) defining a plurality of depressed molding areas and a second housing member (40) being formed by injecting different molding materials into the depressed molding areas, the first housing member having a plurality of passageways defined therethrough and the terminals including contact portions received in corresponding passageways of the first housing member and tail portions embedded in the second housing member;

a plug connector (col. 4, lines 56-59); and

a cable (12) having conductors terminated to corresponding tail portions of the terminals of the receptacle connector and corresponding terminals of the plug connectors at opposite ends thereof.

Wagner does not disclose a pair of side posts spaced from the passageways

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Kinoshita et al (US 5830,001) discloses a pair of side posts (attached to sides of 32) spaced from the passageways,

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Wagner with a pair of side posts , as taught by Kinoshita et al , to guide the connector assembly components.

With regard to claim 6, Wagner when modified by Kinoshita et al discloses (Kinoshita et al) that the terminals of the receptacle connector include a first set of power/ground terminals and a second set of signal/ground terminals electrically insulated from each other.

With regard to claim 7, Wagner when modified by Kinoshita et al discloses (Wagner) that the receptacle connector, the plug connector and the cable are constructed according to the Serial ATA standard (col. 4, lines 59-61).

With regard to claim 11, Wagner when modified by Kinoshita et al discloses (Wagner) that the second housing formed in the depressed molding areas (formed in spaces between 26 and 38) is structurally interlocked with the first housing and cooperates with the first housing to correspondingly form and share a smooth coplanar exterior surface (Fig. 4) on each corresponding side of the combined first and second housing.

Claims 5,8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner in view of Hwang.

With regard to claims 5 and 8, Wagner (US 6,402,552) discloses an electrical cable connector assembly comprising:

a receptacle connector (10) comprising an insulative housing and a plurality of terminals (22) received in the insulative housing, the insulative housing consisting of a first housing member (26, 38) defining a plurality of depressed molding areas and a second housing member (40) being formed by injecting different molding materials into the depressed molding areas, the first housing member having a plurality of passageways defined therethrough and the terminals including contact portions received in corresponding passageways of the first housing member and tail portions embedded in the second housing member;

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a plug connector (col. 4, lines 56-59); and

a cable (12) having conductors terminated to corresponding tail portions of the terminals of the receptacle connector and corresponding terminals of the plug connectors at opposite ends thereof.

Wagner does not disclose a pair of side posts spaced from the passageways

Hwang (US 6,315,606) discloses a pair of side posts (29) spaced from the passageways,

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Wagner with a pair of side posts, as taught by Hwang, to guide the connector assembly components.

With regard to claims 9 and 10, Wagner when modified by Hwang discloses (Hwang) a pair of mating posts (28) on opposite sides of the passageways, and the insulative housing of the plug connector further defines a pair of receiving channels on opposite sides of the blade portion for receiving the mating posts.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander D Gilman whose telephone number is 571 272-2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571 272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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05/06/2004

*Alex Gilman*

**ALEXANDER GILMAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**